

RESOLUTIONS**H.C.R. 27**

Eissler	Isett	Phillips
Elkins	Jones of Lubbock	Pickett
Ellis	Jones of Bexar	Pitts
Farabee	Jones of Dallas	Puente
Farrar	Keel	Quintanilla
Flores	Keffer of Dallas	Rangel
Flynn	Keffer of Eastland	Raymond
Gallego	King	Reyna
Garza	Kolkhorst	Riddle
Gattis	Krusee	Ritter
Geren	Kuempel	Rodriguez
Giddings	Laney	Rose
Goodman	Laubenberg	Seaman
Goolsby	Lewis	Smith of Tarrant
Griggs	Luna	Smith of Harris
Grusendorf	Mabry	Smithee
Guillen	Madden	Solis
Gutierrez	Marchant	Solomons
Haggerty	Martinez Fischer	Stick
Hamilton	McCall	Swinford
Hamric	McClendon	Talton
Hardcastle	McReynolds	Taylor
Harper-Brown	Menendez	Telford
Hartnett	Mercer	Thompson
Heflin	Merritt	Truitt
Hegar	Miller	Turner
Hilderbran	Moreno of Harris	Uresti
Hill	Moreno of El Paso	Van Arsdale
Hochberg	Morrison	Villarreal
Hodge	Mowery	West
Homer	Naishtat	Wilson
Hope	Nixon	Wise
Hopson	Noriega	Wohlgemuth
Howard	Oliveira	Wolens
Hughes	Olivo	Wong
Hunter	Paxton	Woolley
Hupp	Pena	Zedler

Adopted by the House on January 21, 2003, by a non-record vote; adopted by the Senate on January 22, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

Approved February 5, 2003.

Filed with the Secretary of State, February 5, 2003.

H.C.R. No. 27**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor was established by the 58th Texas Legislature to honor gallant and intrepid service by a member of the state military forces of Texas, and through his courageous actions during battle in World War II, Colonel M. B. Etheredge of Huntsville distinguished himself as a worthy recipient of this prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, Raised in East Texas, Col. Etheredge was serving as superintendent of a small school district in Damon when the United States entered the war; resigning his position, he enlisted in the army as a private in 1942; after completing basic training he was

sent to noncommissioned officers' school and, after only eight days there, to officers' candidate school in Fort Benning, Georgia, where he graduated on February 5, 1943; and

WHEREAS, On the night of March 12–13, 1944, Col. Etheredge was assistant commander of a combat patrol when it came under heavy machine-gun fire north of Carano, Italy; disregarding the bullets flying all about him, he personally led his squad in a successful assault on the machine gun; when a second machine gun erupted, he again braved the barrage as he directed his men in laying down fire, allowing the main part of the patrol to advance against the gun and silence it; and

WHEREAS, Farther along, a third strong point opened heavy fire; once more, Col. Etheredge moved about aggressively in the midst of this attack, developing a strong firing line and enabling the main body of the patrol to skirt the house and continue on its mission; altogether, the patrol killed at least 10 Germans, captured 12, and knocked out two machine guns, and Col. Etheredge's remarkable gallantry and leadership in this operation earned for him a Silver Star; and

WHEREAS, Two months later, on May 23, 1944, in Italy, Col. Etheredge immediately took charge of Company "K," 30th Infantry Regiment, when the commanding officer and other key personnel were cut down; deciding to continue the attack, he ignored heavy fire to move up and down a ditch for 75 yards, reorganizing his company and bolstering its morale; though wounded in the leg, he then led his men running and crawling into the face of steady small arms fire for some 550 yards, rested them for 10 minutes, and then resumed the assault, advancing another 250 yards, overrunning the objective and organizing an all-around defensive position; and

WHEREAS, Col. Etheredge's actions were instrumental in securing a vital battalion target, relieving pressure on two flank companies, and opening a way for a third company to advance; his critical role in this day's action was rewarded with the appendage of an oak leaf cluster to his Silver Star; and

WHEREAS, Col. Etheredge subsequently commanded Company "K" in France; there, on August 16, 1944, he once again exposed himself to gunfire in the course of significantly assisting the American advance; he was sitting atop a tank destroyer, directing its fire at German-held buildings 200 yards distant, when he barely escaped a machine-gun fusillade; and

WHEREAS, A platoon flanking the building then fell into disarray and Col. Etheredge dashed across 75 yards of open ground through more machine-gun fire to reorganize the group; choosing a route that skirted the barbed wire outside the buildings, he next led a 50-yard assault that captured 29 enemy soldiers, an anti-tank gun, a mortar, large quantities of ammunition, and numerous vehicles; in recognition of his bravery and decisive command, he received a second oak leaf cluster; and

WHEREAS, During the war Col. Etheredge also received two Bronze Stars and two Purple Hearts; he was eventually discharged with the highest efficiency rating of any officer discharged from the Fourth Army; this dauntless soldier later served three terms in the Texas Legislature and taught for 33 years at Sam Houston State University; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor is the highest commendation Texans can bestow on members of our state military forces, and the outstanding valor manifested by Col. Etheredge on repeated occasions most assuredly merits the award of our state's supreme military honor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby confer the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor on Colonel M. B. Etheredge in recognition of his heroic service and express to him our deepest appreciation on behalf of all his fellow Texans; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Col. Etheredge as an expression of highest regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Ellis

Kolkhorst

Adopted by the House on May 6, 2003, by a non-record vote; adopted by the Senate on May 28, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

RESOLUTIONS

H.C.R. 30

Approved June 20, 2003

Filed with the Secretary of State, June 22, 2003.

H.C.R. No. 29

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Honorable Mario Zolezzi Garcia, mayor of Matamoros, Tamaulipas, has dedicated himself to the betterment of his city, and he truly merits special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1774, Matamoros is situated across the Rio Grande from Brownsville, Texas; the city was originally named San Juan de los Esteros Hermosos and was renamed in honor of Don Mariano Matamoros, a soldier and priest who died during the Mexican War of Independence; and

WHEREAS, Under the astute and able leadership of its mayor, Matamoros enjoys a well-deserved reputation as a popular tourist destination, attracting visitors who seek the charm of Old World Mexico together with the amenities of a modern city; each year the residents of Matamoros extend a warm welcome to thousands of guests from near and far; and

WHEREAS, Among the numerous points of interest are the cathedral church Nuestra Señora del Refugio, Juarez Market Square, and Plaza Hidalgo, named in honor of Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, the father of Mexican independence; the city's many notable historic structures include Casa Iturria, a colonial-style building, and Casa Cross, the only Victorian-style home in Northern Mexico; the Teatro de la Reforma hosts one of Mexico's finest cultural festivals every October; and

WHEREAS, Mario Zolezzi Garcia has been instrumental in furthering the success of Matamoros as a dynamic commercial metropolis, one whose strong international ties are evidenced by the great number of foreign corporations that have set up manufacturing operations in the city; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed public servant has worked to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Matamoros in countless ways, and it is a pleasure to honor him at this time; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby commend the Honorable Mario Zolezzi Garcia for his myriad achievements as mayor of Matamoros and salute him and the City of Matamoros as notable friends and business partners of the State of Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mayor Zolezzi Garcia as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Davis of Harris

Adopted by the House on March 18, 2003, by a non-record vote; adopted by the Senate on March 18, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

Approved March 24, 2003.

Filed with the Secretary of State, March 24, 2003.

H.C.R. No. 30

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, During his tenure as governor of the State of San Luis Potosí, the Honorable Fernando Silva Nieto has exemplified the virtues of integrity and dedication, and his skilled leadership has played a vital role in the progress of this richly diverse region; and

WHEREAS, San Luis Potosí embraces a territory of 24,417 square miles in the center of Mexico; the state's several climate zones range from the tropical Huasteca to the temperate Sierra Madre Oriental to the arid and semiarid high plateau; and